

CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

1 1. An immunoassay method in which antibodies or antigens in a sample are
2 subjected to agglutination reaction with insoluble carriers onto which antigens or
3 antibodies specifically reacting with the antibodies or antigens in the sample have been
4 immobilized and the resulting agglutination mixture is determined for the change in its
5 absorbance or in its scattered light by irradiation with light, wherein said sample is whole
6 blood and the whole blood is forcibly lyzed.

1 2. The immunoassay method according to claim 1, wherein whole blood is
2 forcibly lyzed by mixing the whole blood with a low osmotic solution.

1 3. The immunoassay method according to claim 1, wherein whole blood is
2 forcibly lyzed by mixing the whole blood with a solution of saponins for hemolysis.

1 4. The immunoassay method according to claim 1, wherein whole blood is
2 forcibly lyzed by freezing and thawing the whole blood.

1 5. The immunoassay method according to claim 1, wherein whole blood is
2 forcibly lyzed by ultrasonication of the whole blood.

1 6. The immunoassay method according to claim 1, wherein saponins for
2 hemolysis are incorporated into an insoluble particle suspension reagent onto which
3 antibodies or antigens specifically reacting with antigens or antibodies have been
4 immobilized.

1 7. An immunoassay method, comprising the step of subjecting antibodies or
2 antigens in whole blood as a sample to agglutination reaction with an insoluble particle
3 suspension reagent onto which antigens or antibodies specifically reacting with the
4 antibodies or antigens in the whole blood have been immobilized, the step of
5 determining the resulting agglutination mixture for the change in its absorbance or in its

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6 scattered light by irradiation with light, and the step of calculating the hematocrit % of as
7 follows by the sample:

8
$$A' = A \times 100 / (100 - \text{hematocrit \%})$$

9 where A is the absorbance or its change or the strength of light scattering or its change
10 determined, and A' is the corrected absorbance or its change or the strength of light
11 scattering or its change assuming that the plasma component in the sample is 100%.

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